

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Final Rejection mailed on September 1, 2004 for the above-captioned patent application, Applicants hereby submit, a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) including payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) and a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. Section 132 from Dr. Boyu Zhao, one of the inventors. Claims 1-25 have been canceled and new claims 26-48 have been added. Applicants request that the Examiner consider the following remarks.

The Examiner has issued a Final Rejection mailed September 1, 2004 of Claims 1-25. The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-25 under 35 USC § 112 first paragraph as containing subject matter that was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one of skill in the art to practice the invention.


Applicants respectfully submit that the specification, as originally filed, does adequately teach one of skill in the art how to make and use the invention as originally claimed.

Nonetheless, to advance prosecution, Applicants have cancelled Claims 1-25, without prejudice, and added new Claims 26-48. New Claims 26-48 are directed to methods of treatment of Impulse Control Disorders (ICDs) including Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD). As disclosed in the specification on page 2, impulse control disorders are described as a subset of anxiety disorders. The original claims therefore included methods for the treatment of Impulse Control Disorders (ICDs) and ICDs are specifically claimed as subsets of anxiety disorders in original claims 20, 21, 23 and 24. Therefore, applicants submit that the new claims 26-48 do not claim an invention that is independent and distinct from the claims previously claimed and examined but rather focus on a subset of the previously claimed invention.

Applicants submit that the presently claimed invention is fully supported by the specification as originally filed. Specifically, new Claims 26-48 are supported by the specification, especially on pages 2, line 9 to page 3 line 18 and on page 15, at lines 18-19 and in the claims as originally filed, especially Claims 20, 21, 23 and 24. No new matter is added by the addition of these new claims.

In addition, Applicants wish to draw the Examiner's attention to the Declaration of Dr. Boyu Zhao submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132. Dr. Boyu is an inventor on the present application and was the responsible investigator for a study of one of the compounds of the present invention in an animal model that is believed to have relevance for the treatment of Impulse Control Disorders (ICDs). The test compound used in the study is shown in the specification on page 14 as Formula (Ib) and is the compound specifically claimed in Claims 18 and 19 in the original application. Dr. Zhao found that the test compound at 40 mg/kg P.O. had a statistically significant effect on inhibiting isolation-induced aggression in pairs of mice. In Dr. Zhao's opinion this pharmacological effect in this animal model is suggestive that the compound would help alleviate impulsive control disorder symptoms in subjects with Impulse Control Disorder (ICD's). Applicants respectfully submit that the invention is fully enabled as claimed and respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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